

JUN. 14 1983



June 10, 1983

Mr. Donald D. Slesnick II
President, Dade Heritage Trust, Inc.
190 S. E. 12 Terrace
Miami, Florida 33131

Dear Don:

This is to acknowledge your recent letter to Florida Power & Light Company expressing appreciation for certain historic artifacts and mementos from the Ryan Building.

Your comment, "when we belatedly learned of your organization's decision to demolish the Ryan Building," is a most pertinent observation. There needs to be a better system for identifying and communicating historic sites in our community. Further, I can assure you that none of us involved in the decision to raze the Ryan Building was aware at the time, nor even now, that the Ryan building was on any official list designated as a historic site to be preserved. Further, when we applied for the demolition permit from the City of Miami, there was no indication of concern in regard to our razing this particular structure, nor did we know the work was done during "National Historic Preservation Week".

There is a strong sympathy in the Adams family to preserve historic buildings and create adaptive uses in order to maintain them for the great historic value they possess. My wife, Betsy, has been an advisor to the committee responsible for maintaining and operating the Gables House (the original George Merrick house). In addition, I encouraged my oldest son, Larry, Jr., to use the original City of Coral Gables Police and Fire Station building for his University of Miami School of Architecture thesis. Arva Parks and others utilized the written part of his thesis to help convince city officials of Coral Gables to designate and maintain the subject historic site at Salzedo and Aragon.

Because of my knowledge that Mrs. Parks had worked with my architect son and of her strong interest in this subject, I called her and offered to contribute two large priceless chandeliers that had been located in the Ryan Building. She graciously accepted the offer (pictures enclosed). Mr. Frank Thompson is working with her to arrange delivery.

We are pleased you can make effective use of the articles and material that were salvaged from the Ryan Building, and we appreciate your expression of thanks.

Sincerely,

Larry H. Adams
Vice President - Southern Division

LHA:lp
Enclosure

cc: Mrs. Arva Parks
Mr. Frank Thompson

